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## J. M. TILFORD, President Indianapolis Journal Company. REMARKS OF REV. D. STEVENSON.

LAW, IN SYNOD OF INDIANA, AT GREENSBURG.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 20, 1862. cent meeting of the Synod of Indiana, statesmen, as the greatest source of dantwo resolutions-one to approve the ac- ger to our country. Permit me, in suption of the General Assembly in adopt- port of this opinion, to read an account ing Dr. Breckenridge's paper on the state given by Dr. Hill, of an interview beof the country; the other, to adopt a pa- tween him and Henry Clay. Dr. Hill cussed. During the discussion of these reso- Herald," of Louisville. He says: lutions, strong hints were expressed re- "Concerning the greatest source of specting disloyalty, and the Provost Mar- danger to the country. A few weeks prior shal. In justice to the Brethren who ex- to the death of Hon. Henry Clay, when pressed these hints, I cannot think they he passed through our city on his way to really believed what their words implied. Washington, at the request of a Method-Reference would not thus be made to this ist minister from one of the Northern subject, were it not that since said meet- States, who had never seen the great ing of Synod, attempts have been made statesman, we called with him to see him. to falsify my statements. One gentle- He was quite feeble, and spoke of his crude, has told me I "should have been months. He said that nothing but a deep arrested for making such a traitorous and abiding conviction that the Union of speech;" and an editor of a religious pa- the States was in imminent peril, could ing the discussion, in a letter from Wash- to leave the quiet of his own home, and ington city to his paper, makes the follow- go back to the Senate, the seat of so many ing comment on my remarks: "His logic of his struggles and great achievements. culminates in compounding the principal The opinion was expressed by one or dogmas of one of the great political par- both of us, that the danger of disunion ties and of the church, and in anathema- was greatly overestimated; that if it ever tising the other party." So far from hav- came to the test, it would be found that ing a desire to "compound the principal there were very few who would be mad dogmas of one of the great political par- enough to rush into disunion, either North ties and of the church," my desire is that or South. He shook his head ominously, the church shall not soil its blood-washed and replied: 'Gentlemen, if I have studgarments by contact with any political jed anything, it is the genius and spirit party. Happy the day for our country, of the American people, both in the North and thrice happy the day for our beloved and in the South; and I tell you, there is church, when church courts devote their danger. There is a spirit rising up in energies exclusively to their appropriate both sections of this republic, which, if

that my friends may know whether there petty republies, or despotisms, as the case loyalty, or of " compounding the principal former occasions, the North and the South dogmas of one of the great political par- had been arrayed against each other in tising the other party."

Respectfully, yours, DAVID STEVENSON.

nounce affegiance to the General Assem- is to their interest. It is against the inbly. Some say they had already left us; terest of both parties in every contest, to but by a formal act of the last Assembly, go to war, but nations constantly do it, the alleged seism of the Southern churches notwithstanding the fact. It is against was disregarded, and the usual space left the interest of men to fight duels, but for them on the Assembly's minutes. The they often do it, when they know that Breckenridge resolutions regards them ruin, both to themselves and families, as still in connection with us. It is to be stares them full in the face. So,

FUNERAL NOTICE.

VOLUME X.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11, 1862.

delivered by the carrier at 12% cents per week, payable feared the continued agitation of such questions will drive from our communion many of the churches in the border slave States: and if we loose them, as we have lost the Southern churches, the time is not far distant when the church North will be swallowed up by Abolitionism. Dr. Hodge, in giving his reasons why the WEEKLY STATE SENTINEL, church should not be divided, long since said that he deprecated the separation of the Old School Presbyterians in the South, from their brethren in the North, among other reasons, because the North needed the South, since in the event of a separation, there is danger that the Northern church will succomb to a fanatical anti-slavery spirit, and victimize moderate conservative men. This prediction of Dr. Hodge is being rapidly fulfilled.

2d. This action of the Assembly has injured the church at the North. Con-2.50 3.75 5.00 6.00 7.00 8.00 9.00 10.00 scientions opposition to it has already de-3.00 4.50 6.00 7.50 9.00 10.50 12.00 13.50 prived some of our churches of the ablest preachers and best pastors in our denomination. It has given our brethren "no were infected with Abolition heresy license to preach Abolitionism. Some 12m 15.00 25 00 35.00 45.00 55.00 95.00 75.00 85.00 95.00 them think the most effectual plan for saving the Union, is to abolish at once, and forever, slavery in the Southern States. Hence they, regardless of all the dangers and horrors of servile insurrection, advocate, by their prayers and ser-Advertisements published in both the Daily and the mons, the immediate emancipation of the negroes. The blessed gospel of our Business Notices published in the local columns, of ten blessed Savior inculcates the exercise of love to the human family; but some of Charges will be made for inserting the notices of the our Northern brethren seem to forget, not named, to be paid in advance:

Nilltary Companies, Order of Odd Fellows, Masonic South, but also that secessionists belong only that God has any people in the For each notice not exceeding 8 lines 25 cents for each to the human family. I have heard at Amounting deaths with funeral notice attached, \$1; least one professed follower of Jesus, an without notice free Notices of Festivals, Picnics and Excursions, gotten up by in the public congregation for the "speedy hanging of all traitors." How different Advertisements leaded and placed under the head of Special Notices, if ten lines or over, will be charged double the usual rates. Advertisements making less than three lines, inserted fered up for his murderers the prayer, " Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Think you that God's Daily, and \$2 in the Daily and Weekly, the same to be, in children, under the public ministrations of such a preacher, can make advances in advertisements inserted at the expense of the at-ordering, and not delayable for the legal proceed-the divine life? How deplorable the state accountable for the accuracy of legal advertisements be- of piety in our churches! May it not truly be said of many of our ministers and people - "All seek" the negroes. "and not the things which are Jesus Christ's."

3d. This action of the Assembly has been a great injury to the country. It ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF DR. BRECKIN- has sundered the last tie which bound to-RIDGE ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY, gether the North and the South. The AND OF DR. McMasters on Abol- testimony of Union men in the border ISHING SLAVERY UNDER MILITARY slave States, and in the South, is that, so long as our church took no action on this question, they had hope of the country; but this action took away from them the last hope they cherished for the re-union of States. The separation of our church-MR. BINGHAM-Dear Sir:-At the re- es has been regarded by the most eminent

man, whose ideas of loyalty are very death as a probable event within a few per who was not present at any time dur- have induced him, in his state of health, not speedily quelled, will bring about a Will you, Mr. Editor, be so kind as to severance of the Union of these States, publish the accompanying remarks, so not into two, but into half a dozen little be any justice in the charge, either of dis- may be. It was replied that on several ties and of the church, and in anathema- bitter hostility, but that the hostility had died away, and the parties restored to more than their former friendly relations. 'Ah!' said he, 'that was before the rise of modern Abolitionism. Fanaticism cannot I fully believe true allegiance to coun- be controlled, and especially religious fatry to be a religious duty, and I recognize nuticism. The churches of the country the right of the General Assembly to en- then stood together, and in their great najoin on its ministers and churches, lawful tional assemblies they drew the bond of subjection to the powers that be; but I Union and of brotherhood together. Now am constrained to oppose the proposed most of them have been rent asunder, and action of this body, for the following rea- they are acting as dividers, rather than to bind the country.' Said he, 'gentlemen, 1st. The action of the Assembly in the you are both ministers of the gospel, and passage of the "Breckenridge resolu- I tell you that this sundering of the religtions," was unnecessary. It was not ious ties which have hitherto bound our needed in the non-secoded States. Pres- people together, I consider the greatest byterians in these States were sufficiently source of danger to the country. If our loval. No such blast from the General religious men cannot live together in peace. Assembly was needed to fan the flame of what can be expected of us politicians, their patriotism. It was not needed by very few of whom profess to be governed the churches in the seceded States-it by the great principles of love. If all the could not bring back one rebel to his alle- churches divide on the subject of slavery. giance under the Federal Government. there will be nothing left to bind the peo-It weakened the hands of every loval citi- ple together but trade and commerce. zen in the South. It virtually cut off That, said he is a very powerful bond. from our communion all the Southern I admit; but when the people of these churches. It forced them either to sub- States become thoroughly alienated from ject themselves to personal danger, and each other, and get their passions aroused, their property to confiscation, or to re- they are not apt to stop to consider what

he, men will fight, if tuey consider their political wire-workers of that day often trol the masses. But,' added he, ' yours is at courts, as did the Chicago preachers. the hardest task, and if you do not perform No! He bid them preach the gospel. it, we will not be able to do our part. That He did not commission them as a " Con-I consider the greatest source of danger to gress-Managing Society," but as preachers

country into its present calamities.

occupation as preachers, must needs form it undertakes to decide for them their duty committee. Some of them, not satisfied lieve they owe primary allegiance to their with Jesus Christ as a Savior, must needs States, whereas the action of the Assemmany of our ministers and churches? Is peace, what can be expected from poli- fighting for their homes, for their families, ticians, "very few of whom profess to and for their inalienable rights. We of be governed by the great principles of the North believe they are waging war

4. As an ecclesiastical court, we have Where has Christ Jesus given his church no right to give authoritative decisions on any authority to decide this question? political questions. There are questions When he was upon the earth, two brethwhich properly belong to civil courts, and ren quarreled about the division of their there are questions which properly belong inheritance. One of them entreated to church courts. There is a state gov- Christ's interference, and what was his ernment, and there is a church govern- reply? "Man, who made me a judge or ment; they are both of Divine appoint- a divider over you?" If He were now ment, but their powers are totally distinct; upon the earth, and an appeal made to they do not clash, for God is a God of Him for the settlement of our present

order, and not a God of confusion. distinction between the duties of the and of the South? Is it not more likely church and the duties of the state was his reply would be. " My kingdom is not distinctly drawn. Never was there a of this world; if my kingdom were of time in the history of the world, so favor- this world, then would my servants fight." able for the amalgamation of church and The brethren South are honest and sinstate, but God made express provision cere in the belief that this war, on their against this union. He made Moses, Law- part, is justifiable. We of the North, giver, and he made Aaron, Priest. So with equal honesty and sincerity, contend far from the church and state being united that they are engaged in a most unjustiunder the Theocracy, the fact is, it was fiable war. But where has Christ Jesus the confounding of their purposes and in- given us any authority for the decision of terests which brought about the destruc- such questions? Will these brethren be tion of the nation. Saul once undertook so kind as to give us the chapter and to discharge the duties of the priestly of verse? The Assembly, in this action, fice, and what was the consequence? The traveled out of the record; and if we were sceptre departed from his house forever. not deaf, we might hear the Great Head There is no authority in the Old Testa- of the church saving to us in tones of rement for the amalgamation of church proof, "Who hath required this at your and state. Is there any such authority hands? In vain ye teach for doctrines in the New Testament? "To the law the commandments of men." and to the testimony," for if we "speak I object to this action, because of its not according to this word, it is because unchristian spirit. It declares it to be there is no light" in us. What is the ex- " the duty of the National Government ample of Christ? Did he ever interfere to preserve, at whatever cost, the National with state affairs? The political dema- Union and Constitution, and to crush gogues of His day endeavored to draw force by force." Had this declaration Him into political discussions. One of came from an assemblage of gentlemen them asked Him if it were lawful to pay who had met together as citizens, to contribute to Cæsar; and what was His reply? sult in reference to national affairs, it "Render unto Casar the things which are might be unobjectionable; but surely a Cæsar's, and to God the things that are church court, professing to act in the name God's." But the Bible doctrine of ren- and by the authority of the Lord Jesus dering to Casar the things which are his, Christ, is not called upon to decide the does not make a Casar, nor does it tell us value of the National Union and Constipay him those dues which the constitution christian spirit for such a court to declare and the laws declare to be his. When that force should be crushed by force? and Pilate were rival Kings; one was war the North has already spent a thouin Galilee, the other was in Judea. The sand millions of dollars, and lost over a

rights trampeled upon, even if you show tried to have our Lord interfere in their them that ruin to themselves and families quarrels. Did he interfere? Never; nor will be the probable result. Besides, in has He given His church any authority times of high party excitement, the vio- to meddle with the political quarrels of lent men on both sides get the control of the present day. If he has, where shall matters, and moderate men are thrown we find it? In the commission of the disinto the background, and their councils go ciples? No! This is the commission He anheeded.' Finding that the venerable gave His ministering disciples: "Go ye statesman had exhausted his strength in into all the world, and preach the gospel talking, we arose to bid him adieu, as we to every creature." He did not bid His thought, for the last time upon earth. He disciples "protest in the name of Alshook the hands of both of us, and said, mighty God" against legislative enact-'If you preachers will only keep the ments, as did the three thousand and fifty churches from running into excesses and New England clergymen. He did not fanaticism, I think the politicians can con- bid them petition for edicts and intrigue

of the gospel. He did not send them Here we have the opinion of one of forth as a " Public Opinion Manufactur-America's greatest statesmen and most ing Society," so that the proper party true patriots-an opinion expressed when might be kept in power-no, sir. He the icy hand of death had aiready taken sent them forth to proclaim the gospel of hold of him-when his dying eye was the blessed Jesus, that men might be saved fixed on God's judgment bar, when no from their sins. And what is the account motive other than the well being of his given in scripture of their ecclesiastical country could have influenced him-that meetings? Is there the least intimation the greatest source of danger to our coun- that members of those bodies sent any try was the sundering of the religious dispatch to civil officers asking their opinties which hitherto bound our people to- ion respecting the passage of loyalty resogether. Where was this modern Aboli- lutions? Did they appoint standing comtionism, of which Mr. Clay speaks, born? mittees to take council of Casar? No. In New England. Where was this monster Sir, never! Can this be said of our modnurtured? In the bosom of the New ern ecclesiastical courts? It is the doc-England churches. Yes; the preachers trine of the Old Testament, and of Christ of New England have been the nursing and his apostles, that Christ's kingdom is fathers, and the churches the nursing a spiritual kingdom, having no alliance cumstances, is a sin?" . The General As- assented to by Congress and the people." mothers, of Abolition fanaticism. What with secular powers; and the constitution sembly of 1845, in reply to this very queshas it done? It has corrupted the church of our church expressly declares that sy- tion, said: "It is impossible to answer are not Mr. Seward's words, but the Presiand destroyed the country! The professed nods and councils are to handle or con- this question in the affirmative, without dent's. Mr. Seward says to Mr. Dayton, ministers of Jesus Christ, instead of clude nothing but that which is ecclesiaspreaching the gospel, have for years been tical. But the General Assembly, propreaching Abolitionism. Instead of teach- fessing to be a court of the Lord Jesus ing their people the great lessons con- Christ, and also professing to derive autained in the scriptures, they have poi- thority for all its acts from Him, and besoned their minds with infidel and anti- ing confined by scripture to the exercise American doctrines. Instead of teaching of spiritual power, and being expressly them to hate sin, they have taught them forbidden by the constitution of our ship in the churches organized by the Congress and the people should permit to hate the constitution. It is my firm church to intermeddle with civil affairs. belief they have done as much as the has undertaken to decide a political quesmost corrupt politicians, to plunge our tion. It must be remembered that the action of the Assembly administers a re-The three thousand and fifty New Eng- buke to our Southern brethren for the land elergymen, not satisfied with their course they have pursued in this war, and

have another, whose work shall be more bly assumes as a fact, that they owe complete, in the person of John Brown, a primary allegiance to the National Govfelon, whom they exalt to a dignity equal, ernment. We may be fully convinced if not superior, to that of the immaculate our Southern brethren are in error, but Jesus. This spirit of Abolition fanaticism this does not affect the question at issue, has shown itself in all our religious de- for the question whether a citizen owes nominations. It divided the Baptist and primary allegiance to his State or to the Methodist and New School Presbyterian National Government is a political queschurches, North and South. It influenced tion which cannot be settled by an appeal the Chicago clergymen to petition Mr. to the scriptures, by which the authorita-Lincoln in reference to the conduct of tive teachings of church courts are limited. state affairs. It influenced certain mem- But the General Assembly has given an bers of the General Assembly at Philadel- authoritative decision of this question. phia to telegraph to a member of Mr. Lin- In doing this, it has violated the constitucoln's cabinet asking advice respecting tion of the church, which expressly deper on the subject of slavery-were dis- was then editor of "The Presbyterian the political influence of certain resolu- clares "Synods and councils are to hantions on the state of the country, then dle and conclude nothing but that which pending in the General Assembly. And is ecclesiastical, and are not to intermeddle I ask you in all sincerity, if it be not the with civil affairs which concern the comspirit which now influences the conduct of monwealth." Again-The South say they are enit not seen in the articles written by the gaged in a glorious revolution, and are editors of our religious papers? Slavery contending for their sacred rights. Weis, in their estimation, the great and only of the North-say they are engaged in a sin of our nation—the cause of all our rebellion—fighting against the most benational troubles. And is it not the great nign government under heaven. The theme of discussion with most of our brethren South are as sincere in their bepreachers? What reasonable hope can lief, as we are in ours. Who shall decide we have of a re-union of States, so long the controversy between us? In all our as our pulpits resound with political and authoritative decisions as a church court, sectional prayers and sermons? If the we are limited by the teachings of the members of the same denomination, who scriptures. But where do the scriptures hold the same faith-who serve the same point out the distinction between a revomaster, and who profess to be influenced lution and a rebellion? by the same spirit, cannot live together in The brethren South believe they are

difficulties, would be assume the office of Even under the Jewish Theocracy, the a judge respecting the rights of the North who Casar is: it merely requires that we tution, and is it not evidence of an un-Christ was upon the earth, the Holy Land Where does church courts get authority was divided into several provinces. Herod for acting as military dictators? In this

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our whole land, from the lakes to the tutions, to the human race." Oceans, are now heard nothing but "la- resolve ourselves into an Abolition Somentation and weeping, and great mourn- ciety, before we can pass the paper being." Rachels weeping for their children, fore us. women and children at the South, and all ard says in reference to the rebellion: men at the North who are able to bear "The condition of slavery in the several

existed in the days of Christ and his President." ful-as inconsistent with christianity; that ceeds or fails, he could not constitutionally slaveholders were admitted to member- interfere with slavery, and that even if apostles; that whilst they were required him so to do, he would be prevented by to treat their slaves with kindness, and the judicial authority. they were not commanded to emancipate following resolution: New Testament. This Assembly cannot, of the States of the Union.' as necessarily a heinous and scandalous country have given similar decisions. same Assembly gave the following ans- has declared to be unconstitutional?

" Resolved. That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States was originally organized, and has since continued the bond of union in the church, upon the conceded principle that the existence of domestic slavery under the circumstances in which it is found in no bar to Christian communion." If the holding of slaves without regard

to circumstances was not a sin in 1845, how can it be a sin in 1862? And if not urging the National Government to with-

The same Assembly declared that since Christ and his inspired apostles did not attempt to remove slavery from the church by legislation, we have no authority to legislate on the subject. If Christ and his inspired apostles did not attempt to remove slavery from the church by legislation, what right has this Synod to legislate on its removal. "whether by military law or otherwise,"

against the best government on earth. whatever. It contains no instructions re- forms and ceremonies of worship? specting the relative duties of masters 4. The paper before us takes it for from all complicity with, and support of voted for Mr. Lincoln: military, and semi-political deliverance.

> in which it exists. Secondarily, it has worthless. various aspects and relations, purely or "Mr. Lincoln is not of this class, he and mainly moral, in regard to which the sev- his Cabinet and the Congress derive their eral States permit a greater or less degree powers from the constitution, and to that of intervention. Touching the former they must adhere or ruin comes to all. aspect of the subject, this General As- By that instrument Abraham Lincoln is sembly has no sort of power, any more President at Washington; beyond and than we should have if we met in Great without it he is simply A. Lincoln, of Illi-Britain, over the institutions of hereditary nois, and has no more rights or powers monarchy, or aristocracy, or a thousand than has Sam Jones of Seabrook. If that other things which, as republicans, we constitution gives him the power to emanunanimously condemn, but which you, as cipate slaves within the States, and against loval subjects, candidly approve." In the the will of the loval people thereof-for same letter, the Assembly declares: "It is the loyal people are the State-then he

quarter of a million of lives. Throughout give the blessed gospel, and not free insti-Gulf, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific "Sir, we must adjourn this Synod, and

and will not be comforted, because they | 2. Has the National Government any are not; and yet the General Assembly, power to interfere with slavery in the speaking in the name of the Lord Jesus Southern States? In the official letter of Christ, declares it to be the duty of the instructions from Mr. Seward, Secretary National Government to continue this of State, to Mr. Davton, our Minister to destruction, if necessary, until all innocent France, dated April 22, 1861. Mr. Sew-

arms, are slaughtered, for the Union must States will remain just the same, whether be preserved at whatever cost. Is there it succeed or fail. The rights of the not room for harboring a doubt whether States, and the condition of every human the blessed Jesus-the Prince of Peace- being in them, will remain subject to exwho told Peter to put up his sword when actly the same laws and form of adminishe had drawn it for the defense of his tration, whether the revolution shall suc-Divine Master, approve of this action? | ceed or whether it shall fail. Their con-I object to the paper on slavery, be- stitutions and laws, customs, habits and incause we have no authority, as a court of stitutions, in either case, will remain the the Lord Jesus Christ, to prescribe to cit- same. It is hardly necessary to add to izens what they ought to urge the Na- this incontestible statement the further tional Government either to do or to leave fact that the new President, as well as undone. This paper declares it to be the the citizens through whose suffrages he imperative duty of the citizens of the na- came into the administration, has always tion "to urge upon the National Govern- repudiated all designs, whatever and ment the exertion of the whole power wherever imputed to him and them, of with which it is legitimately invested, disturbing the system of slavery as it is whether under military law or otherwise, existing under the Constitution and laws. to withdraw the nation from all complicity The case, however, would not be fully with slavery." There are several points presented if I were to omit to say that involved in the discussion of this ques- any such effort on his part would be unconstitutional, and all his actions in that 1st. "Do the scriptures teach that the direction would be prevented by the inholding of slaves, without regard to cir- dicial authority, even though they were

contradicting some of the plainest declara- on page 197 of this document, that he tions of the word of God. That slavery writes him this letter "by direction of the apostles, is an admitted fact. That they Here we have the declaration of the did not denounce the relation itself as sin- President that whether the rebellion suc

as rational, accountable, immortal beings, Congress three weeks before the inaugand, if Christians, as brethren in the Lord, uration of President Lincoln, adopted the

them; that slaves were required to be "Resolved, That neither the Federal obedient to their masters according to the Government, nor the people or governthemselves into a Congress-managing as citizens. Many of these brethren be- flesh, with fear and trembling, with sin- ments of non-slaveholding States, have a gleness of heart as unto Christ, are facts purpose or a constitutional right to legiswhich meet the eve of every reader of the late upon, or interfere with slavery in any

therefore, denounce the holding of slaves | And the judicial authorities of the

sin, calculated to bring upon the church | And now, Sir, I ask whether this Synod the curse of God, without charging the would not be guilty of the crime of disapostles of Christ with conniving at sin, loyaliv, if it should, in the name of the introducing into the church such sinners, Lord Jesus Christ, declare that "it is the and thus bringing upon them the curse of imperative duty of the citizens of the nathe Almighty." And in reply to the tion to urge the National Government" question whether slaveholding should be to do that which the executive, the legismade a bar to Christian communion, the lative and judicial authority of the nation

3. The Synod, in dictating to the citizens of the nation their duty as citizens, manifests a spirit of religious despotism. The jurisdiction of the church extends only over those who have voluntarily placed themselves within her pale. May the church dictate even to her own members their duty as citizens? Her jurisdiction the Southern portion of the country, is extends only to their religious faith and moral conduct. She may not presume to teach them politics, or to control their votes. If her jurisdiction over her own members be thus limited, what authority sinful, wherein consists the propriety of has she to dictate to the citizens of the nation the policy they should urge the draw the nation from all complicity with government to adopt in the management of national affairs? Sir, there is a principle involved in this paper subversive not only of the constitution, but also of the civil and religious liberties of citizens.

We have been told in this discussion that it is the duty of the church to declare the will of God to the state, and that the state is bound at its peril to hear and obey the church. If so, who shall decide what church the state is bound to hear and obey? The Jewish or the Christian? If Christian, shall it be the Protestant or the Roman Catholie? If Protestant, what It is contended that slavery is a moral denomination? Do our constitution and question, and therefore it is a proper sub- laws recognize any form of religion, or ject for church legislation. I admit that any denomination of Christians in preferslavery has various aspects and relations, ence to others? Suppose the National purely or mainly moral, concerning which Government should hear and obey the church courts may legislate. As for ex- voice of the Presbyterian church of the ample, it is competent for them to give di- Synod of Indiana, as expressed in this rections to their members respecting the paper, may we not proceed as Presbyteriduty of masters and slaves. The church ans to define to the state every part of has jurisdiction over the moral conduct of divine revelation, and urge the citizens of its members in their treatment of slaves. the nation to demand that the National The paper before us proposes to legislate, Government exert the whole power with not on the moral aspect of this question, which it is invested, "whether by military but upon its civil or political relations, law or otherwise," for the enforcement of over which church courts have no control every religious obligation, even to the

and slaves, but it proposes "to urge upon granted the National Government has a the National Government the exertion of right under "military law to abolish slavethe whole power with which it is legiti- rv." Does the constitution invest the mately invested, whether under military President with any such authority? Says law or otherwise, to withdraw the nation a writer in the Newburyport Herald, who

slavery. It is not a moral, but a semi- "In subduing rebellion-of which this is the most infamous the world ever saw-In 1846 a letter was received by our we can go as far as the constitution allows. General Assembly from the General As- and there we must stop. We know it is sembly of the Presbyterian church of becoming common in this day for persons Ireland, on the subject of slavery. In re- to say, "We will exercise certain powers, ply to said letter by our General Assem- constitution or no constitution;" but that bly, the following passage occurs: "The this is the doctrine of revolutionists of relations of Negro slavery as it exists in the Robespierres and Murats, who in the States that tolerate it, are two-fold. ninety days of administration would Chiefly, it is an institution purely civil, plunge this people into all the horrors of signing an "indulgence" to all governdepending absolutely upon the will of the the French revolution, when no man's life civil power in the States respectively would be safe, and all property would be

the particular mission of the church to can do it; if not, then the States or the

let him ask the States; or if the crisis is so great as not to admit of delay, let him at east do as much as did Louis Na when he would prolong his term of office, appeal to the people. Let him hear what the border States will say—what the great Northwest will say - what every State west of the Hudson river will say; aye, and what New England even, will say. "But we have the right in the war power, they tell us. War power! War power! What is that? Will somebody please define it? Does anybody pretend to say that because the nation may be engage in war therefore the President is endowed with absolute authority?-that he may say the public good and the national welfare demand this or that, and go and do it, of his own will? Why, the Autocrat of Russia has no more power, and Nero in his bloodiest days, never dared exercise so much. Why, what does this powerthis war power-enable the Government to do?-to take your property and mine, when we are loval citizens? If not, then it cannot take the property of any Southern man who may be a loval citizen. Will it justify the instigation of the servants about your house or mine to burn the house over our heads and our infant children and defenseless women in them? Then it will not admit of such crimes in Virginia and Tennessee. How strange that people should ever be so carried away as to believe that we have endowed any one or any number of men, when we may be unarmed and peaceful, wishing well to our country, to seize our property, or papers, or persons, and to send us to the dungeon or the block, without any process of law! This is what is claimed by the advocates of emancipation under the war power. But this is sheer nonsense; and it is nothing but the madness of the hour

that begets or tolerates such an idea.'

I have been charged on this floor with

dislovaity! How has this charge beet

sustained? In quite a novel method. It

has been maintained that as Mr. Lincoln

has been constitutionally elected President.

people have retained that right to themselves, and he has no more power to deal

with the matter than we have with the

specie in the vanits of the New York

banks. Before he proceeds—unless he can see his authority, which we fail to—

he has been placed at the head of this nation by God, and that opposition to any of Mr. Lincoln's official acts, is dislovalty. Sir. I frankly confess that I am oppose to some of the official acts of Mr. Lincoln but the charge of dislovalty I repel. Such a charge is an insult to my heart, as well as to my head. My idea of lovalty is, fidelity to the constitution, and obedience to the laws of our country. The gentleman who charges me with disloyalty, evidently thinks Mr. Lincoln is the government. The government is high above Mr. Lincoln as Heaven is above the earth. It is the product of the glorious effortsof the prayers-of the faith-of the tears and of the blood of the revolutionary fathers. It is the ark of our political covenant; it is the result of the wise deliberations of men who possessed the clearest minds and best hearts with which mortals have ever been favored. Mr. Lincoln the government! The very idea is absurd. Are these ruling Elders the Presbyterian church of Indiana? Neither is Mr. Lincoln the government of the United States. These Elders are but the representatives, the servants of the churches. Mr. Lincoln is but the temporary servant of the government. Is it not possible that these Elders may, in their official acts, violate the constitution of the church? So may Mr. Lincoln violate the constitution of the country. Have we any authority from the Lord Jesus Christ to issue a "bull" to the churches forbidding them to criticise the official acts of their representatives And shall Americans who dare criticise the official acts of Mr. Lincoln be silenced by a "bull" issued by any person though he occupy the executive chair? But we are told opposition to the official acts of Mr. Lincoln is disloyalty. Let us test this theory: It is a fact known to the country that a U. S. Senator received a bonus of fifty thousand dollars for a governmental contract; it is also known to the country that, because of the public indignation against the persons who stole by the wholesale from the government an act was passed on the 2d day of May last for their punishment; but another fact is also known: just fifteen days after the passage of this act, the party in power passed another act, which reads thus: "Be it enacted, that the operation of an act entitled an act to provide and punish frauds on the part of officers entrusted with making contracts for the government, approved June 2d, 1862, be, and the same is hereby suspended until the first Monday of January, 1863." Is it possible Mr. Lincoln approved such an act? Yes! he

signed it the very day of its passage! According to the theory advocated on this floor, we must approve this act, or be disloyal. Writers in our religious papers favor the same idea of lovalty, as appears from the following extract, taken from a paper edited by one of our own ministers:

"Show your colors now, by standing by the authority of the government and eternal right. Let "precedent" be considered of secondary importance; let the constitution itself, as you interpret it merely, be secondary. Whatever the authorities consider "constitutional" should not only be assented to by every good citizen, but should be sustained by his words and acts and influence. If he cannot do these things conscientiously, let him be mute as a mouse, under the "violent presumption" that he is a fool, and has no better sense. For a sensible man will always diffidently mistrust the correctness of any opinion of his own, when he sees it opposed to that of men of higher abilities."

That is, if you condemn the Senator who stole fifty thousand dollars, and disapprove of the act of Mr. Lincoln in mental thieves until the first Monday of January, 1863, the State Marshal may cast you into prison. It is constitutional to do so, and your neighbors must assent to the act, and sustain it by their words and acts and influence. If your conscience does not approve of all this, you must be mute as a mouse, under the violent presumption that you are fool, and have no better sense! Is it not time, Sir, that Americans should enquire whither such religious teachings tend? If the fountain

be polluted, can the streams be pure? But it is argued the constitution was made for a time of peace, and not for a time of war, and that in dealing with rebels, the constitution should be disregard-